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As Others See Us

Letters of E. G. Lowrey, Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post, who accompanied the Congressional Party.

KAHULUI, Island of Maui, June 7. —It is desired to make the Hawaiian Islands a winter resort for the idle rich. Organized plans are making to induce Eastern people who go to California for the winter months to continue their journey to Honolulu and the neighboring islands. There is every reason why people, with the time and the desire to see new countries should come out to the islands. They can spend a month here comfortably and derive much entertainment from their stay. Not the least interesting of the things they would see are the volcanoes—the extinct Haleakala, whose great bulk comprises the eastern half of this island, and Kilauea, where eternal fires glow at the bottom of a great chimney one thousand feet deep by half as great diameter.

The writer, with members of the Congressional party, ascended to the summit of Haleakala on horseback, spent the night there and saw the sun rise, traversed the crater of Kilauea, and dined on the edge of the pit, Halemauau, on food cooked from the heat escaping through the fissures in the lava floor of the great crater. The ascent of Haleakala was made on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, May 16. On the morning of the 17th, seventy-seven persons, the largest party ever at the summit at one time, saw the sun rise through the clouds and flood with light the great, barren, cloud-filled crater.

Maui is the second island of the group in size, with an area of 760 square miles. It consists of two mountains connected by a low-lying isthmus seven miles wide at the narrowest part. It is the largest area of level land anywhere in the islands. Because it is flat the islanders call it monotonous and dreary. The Iao valley back of Wailuku town and the Koolau gulches offer tropical scenery that can hardly be surpassed. The Iao valley is one of the beauty spots of the world. Mt. Keke, on the western end of the island, is nearly 6000 feet high, while Haleakala, at the eastern end, raises its dome 10,300 feet above the sea, and is one of the wonders of the world.

ON HALEAKALA'S SUMMIT.

To make the ascent of Haleakala one must go by train along the coast from Kahului to Paia and there take carriage to the Haleakala ranch, which lies in the foothills at the base of the great mountain. From here it is a ten-mile ride over a winding, rough trail up the side of the mountain to the summit. All the lower stretches of the mountains are covered with green, and thousands of cattle find pasture on the hillsides. The land is broken with deep gulches, marking old lava flows, and the horses pick their way gingerly over the slippery footing. As one rises, the outlook is superb. On the level isthmus connecting the two halves of the island, the cane fields are seen marked off like a checker board. Beyond the white line of surf and the curved beaches, the waters of the Pacific stretch away to the horizon. We reached the ranch house at Olinda at four o'clock in the afternoon, after riding for an hour through a blinding rainstorm. Two hours later, within three miles of the summit, we saw a sunset more than a thousand feet above the clouds. The sides of the mountain were bare and covered with broken stones, old lava runs, and bits of broken, dried wood where once scrubby undersized trees had grown.

It was eight o'clock and pitch dark before we reached the edge of the crater. We only knew it was the summit because the horses refused to go any further. They had walked to within a couple of yards of the crater walls, which drop sheer down 2500 feet. The last hour of the journey we could not see five feet beyond the horses' heads, and depended wholly upon the sagacious, sure-footed animals to find their own way; they kept the trail unerringly.

That night it was so cold on the summit that, although we had tents and blankets, we found it impossible to sleep comfortably, and spent the entire night seated around a fire, swathed in blankets and sweaters. The night was as still as it was cold and clear. The sunrise the next morning was a gorgeous effect. The crater of Haleakala has a circumference of twenty miles and an area of nineteen square miles. A score of cones from three hundred feet to a thousand feet in height dot the floor, while from out the one-time cauldron lead two gaps, once the vents of lava flows which cover the eastern and southern flanks of the mountains. The impression is one of rare desolation and grandeur.

KILAUEA'S ACTIVE CRATER.

The active crater of Kilauea, on the side of Mauna Loa, is one of the most comfortable volcanoes to visit in the world. One may do it in white canvas shoes with perfect ease. There is a fairly well appointed hotel on the edge of the crater, and one may easily walk in an hour the three miles from the top of the crater's edge to the smoking pit, Halemauau (House of Everlasting Fire).

Active volcanoes exist on the island of Hawaii, but even tradition gives no account of any elsewhere in the group. And on Hawaii volcanic activity has been confined, within modern times, to the summit and slopes of Mauna Loa, with the exception of an eruption of Mount Hualalai in the year 1801. Eruption in the crater of Kilauea at 4000 feet elevation, and in that of Mokuaweewe, at the summit of the great mountain, 13,675 feet high, together with flows of lava from points about the periphery near the summit, all occurring at irregular intervals of years, constitute the lively features of Hawaiian volcanic phenomena. The people of the island

have not the slightest fear of their volcanoes. The mountains of the island are so large and the flow of lava is so sluggish after it has been moved some distance, that people in any of the inhabited parts of the island could hardly be taken by surprise by an invasion of the molten rock.

Records are extant of more than a score of eruptions upon Mauna Loa in the nineteenth century. The lava flows came from various points near the summit, and some of them lasted many months. One in 1887 and another in 1899 made magnificent displays, which were easily and safely accessible to view at short range, and drew large numbers of spectators from all over the islands. On such occasions steamboat excursions to the nearest landing are always hastily organized, so that the scene may be witnessed before it becomes played out.

NOTEWORTHY FLOWS OF LAVA.

The flow of 1887 continued for more than a fortnight, down the slopes, thirty miles, to the sea. In places the fiery stream spread out to a mile's width, and, passing over abrupt declivities, formed cascades of flaming debris. Fire fountains played all along the moving mass. This eruption, within the seventeen days that the flow lasted, was signalized by nearly 400 earthquake shocks, none of which did heavy damage.

The flow of 1899 started, by a peculiar coincidence, on the second Fourth of July after the annexation of Hawaii, and continued for three weeks. Those fortunate enough to get within near view of the diversified manifestations, which involved some arduous mountain climbing, were fully rewarded. The eruption, according to guesses made by observers, appears to have started within 3000 feet from the summit, but eruptive cones of great size developed at various distances farther down for two or three miles. Some of these were mighty fountains, throwing not only fused material, but huge boulders, to a height of fifty feet. At the highest vent the eruption formed a crater, which assumed the form of a mound 150 feet high, over the rim of which four streams of lava poured to merge at the base. A curious development in a lava flow is that as it takes its way it forms a tunnel of congealing crust through which the purely fluid matter runs for a long distance concealed. Here and there along the route the accumulated gases produce minor eruptions, causing fire fountains. In the last-mentioned flow there would be visible at once from a single point of view several of these eruption cones, ranging from 100 to 300 feet in height.

THE "HOUSE OF FIRE."

Kilauea forms a cavity in the mountainside with walls on three sides from 300 to 400 feet high. Its area is about four square miles; circumference, 41,500 feet, or 7.85 miles; extreme length, 15,500 feet, or 2.93 miles; extreme width, 10,300 feet, or 1.95 miles. The principal focus of activity is near the middle of the main crater—or what Capt. Dutton, who wrote a scientific report on Hawaiian volcanoes for the United States Government in 1884, conveniently called the "caldera" to distinguish it from the eruptive vents within its confines. "Halemauau," meaning the house of fire, is the name given to the principal cone, whose interior in periods of high activity constitutes a lake of molten lava. Smaller lakes that were created by eruptions many years ago ultimately became merged into this one. Halemauau is irregular of outline and roughly estimated as being 150x300 yards in mouth dimensions and tapers down to a depth of 400 or 500 feet. Just outside of it spouting cones have appeared. These are of fantastic shape.

In the intervals between the more violent periods of Kilauea, lasting sometimes for years, intense heat is retained in all of the lava vents as well as throughout miles of fissures, extending in various directions upon the floor of the caldera. Any inflammable material exposed to these openings takes only a few moments to become scorched or ignited. Odd formations of lava are found all over the floor, including the caves and bridges, within or under which the spaces are large enough to shelter a crowd. One particular cavern is a vault-shaped place entered through a hole broken in its roof. It is ten feet deep and about fifteen feet each way laterally, and its temperature is usually so high that few can remain inside it more than a few minutes.

In its most quiescent periods Kilauea never ceases to emit vapors, sometimes dense and smoky, again thin and white. When, therefore, it is said to be inactive, it is so only in a comparative degree. Nearly always great clouds of steam are emitted from the adjoining cliffs as well as from apparently bottomless pits and gullies in the grounds adjacent to the hotel. Near the public road and a few yards from the Volcano House, there are extensive sulphur and red ochre beds, always hot and smoking, constantly receiving accretions from subterranean fires.

Mokuaweewe, the crater on the very summit of Mauna Loa, is less frequently active than Kilauea. Its periods of activity are also shorter. In fact, they are usually so brief that few persons have ever been able to make the ascent in time to see the eruption. There was some slight activity reported in Mokuaweewe at the time of the 1899 lava flow. The last previous eruption was in 1896, when the spectacle was enjoyed by two expeditions. One of these was composed of Professor Friedlander of Germany and his guides and attendants. The other was a large party of tourists, who spent a day and night in the ascent and camped upon the margin of the crater the following night. The journey is a hard one, especially for the upward part, yet for persons of ordinary health and strength cannot be said to be perilous. Mountain sickness and severe cold at the top are the chief terrors.

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Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists and storekeepers at 50 cents per box (six boxes for \$2.50), or will be mailed on receipt of price by the Hollister Drug Co., Honolulu, wholesale agents for the Hawaiian Islands.

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UYEDA 1028 Nuanu Ave.**ADJECTIVES FOR THE SEXES.**

Certain adjectives are reserved for men and others for women. A man is never called "beautiful." Along with "pretty" and "lovely" that adjective has become the property of women and children alone. "Handsome" and the weak "good-looking" are the only two adjectives of the kind common to either sex. Even "belle" has no real masculine correlative in English, since "beau" came to signify something other than personal looks. It is singular that "handsome" should have become the word for a strikingly good-looking person, since its literal meaning is handy, dexterous. But "pretty" likewise comes from the Anglo-Saxon word meaning "sly."